


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This paper is submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed March 20, 2006. At that time, claims 1-8, 10-16, and 18-27 were pending in the Office Action. In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 21-27 and rejected claims 1-8, 10-16, and 18-20.

As a result of this paper, all of the rejected claims have been canceled. Accordingly, the only claims remaining in this application are the allowed claims, namely claims 21-27. This amendment puts the present application in a condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, this paper should be entered pursuant to MPEP § 714.12.¹

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If there are any remaining issues preventing allowance of the pending claims that may be clarified by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: June 19, 2006

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¹ This section of the MPEP states that "[a]ny amendment that will place the case either in a condition for allowance or in better form for appeal may be entered." However, if the Examiner refuses to enter this amendment, Applicant requests that the Examiner notify Applicant of such action.